

BILLING CODE 6717-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

[Docket No. IC12-10-000]

COMMISSION INFORMATION COLLECTION ACTIVITIES (FERC-545); COMMENT REQUEST; EXTENSION

AGENCY: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission.

ACTION: Notice of information collection and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, 44 USC 3506(c)(2)(A), the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission or FERC) is soliciting public comment on the currently approved information collection, Gas Pipeline Rates: Non-Formal, FERC-545.

DATES: Comments on the collection of information are due [insert date that is 60 days after publication in the Federal Register].

ADDRESSES: You may submit comments (identified by Docket No. IC12-10-000) by either of the following methods:

- eFiling at Commission's Web Site: http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/efiling.asp
- Mail/Hand Delivery/Courier: Federal Energy Regulatory Commission,
 Secretary of the Commission, 888 First Street, NE, Washington, DC 20426.

Instructions: All submissions must be formatted and filed in accordance with submission guidelines at: http://www.ferc.gov/help/submission-guide.asp. For user assistance

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contact FERC Online Support by e-mail at ferconlinesupport@ferc.gov, or by phone at: (866) 208-3676 (toll-free), or (202) 502-8659 for TTY.

Docket: Users interested in receiving automatic notification of activity in this docket or in viewing/downloading comments and issuances in this docket may do so at http://www.ferc.gov/docs-filing/docs-filing.asp.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION: Ellen Brown may be reached by e-mail at DataClearance@FERC.gov, telephone at (202) 502-8663, and fax at (202) 273-0873.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: FERC-545, Gas Pipeline Rates: Non-Formal

OMB Control No.:1902-0154

Type of Request: Three-year extension of the FERC-545 information collection requirements with no changes to the current reporting requirements.

Abstract: The FERC-545 information collection applies to filings made pursuant to the Natural Gas Act (NGA)¹ and the Natural Gas Policy Act (NGPA)² by regulated entities. The filings enable the Commission to monitor the activities and to evaluate transactions of regulated entities. Additionally, these filings allow customers and interested parties to monitor, participate, and influence pipeline tariff changes.

Type of Respondents: Entities regulated pursuant to the NGA and NGPA.

¹ 15 USC 717c - 717o, PL 75-688, 52 Stat. 822 and 830 ² 15 USC 3393, PL 95-621

Estimate of Annual Burden³: The Commission estimates the total Public Reporting

Burden for this information collection as:

FERC-545 (IC12-10-000): Gas Pipeline Rates: Non-Formal					
	Number of Respondents (A)	Number of Responses Per Respondent (B)	Total Number of Responses (A)x(B)=(C)	Average Burden Hours per Response (D)	Estimated Total Annual Burden (C)x(D)
General (e.g. Tariff modifications resulting from Commission orders)	164	7	1,148	40	45,920
Standard Rate Case Issues (e.g. Compliance, Cost of Service)	15	2	30	7,500	225,000
Reports (Informational Filings)	47	2	94	12	1,128
Negotiated Rates	57	7	399	12	4,788
Non-Conforming Agreements	50	3	150	12	1,800
NAESB (Tariff Only)	82	2	164	40	6,560
Total					285,196

The total estimated annual cost burden to respondents is \$19,681,266 [285,196

hours $\div 2,080^4$ hours/year = 137.11346 * \$143,540/year⁵ = \$19,681,266].

³ Burden is defined as the total time, effort, or financial resources expended by persons to generate, maintain, retain, or disclose or provide information to or for a Federal agency. For further explanation of what is included in the information collection burden, reference 5 Code of Federal Regulations 1320.3.

⁴ 2080 hours/year = 40 hours/week * 52 weeks /year

⁵ Average annual salary per employee in 2012.

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Comments: Comments are invited on: (1) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the Commission, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden and cost of the collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility and clarity of the information collection; and (4) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

Dated: May 7, 2012

Kimberly D. Bose, Secretary.

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